

# CIVIL RIGHTS CALENDAR

## Women's History Month



Clara Shortridge Foltz  
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Clara Shortridge Foltz, California's first female lawyer and a suffragist, sued the University of California, Hastings Law College, winning the right for women to be admitted into law school. *Foltz v. Hodge* (1879) 54 Cal. 28.) Foltz's lobbying led to the enactment of the Women's Lawyer Bill under the Statutes of 1878 of the Twenty-Second Session of the Legislature, which amended then section 275 of the Code of Civil Procedure to read: "Any citizen or person resident of this State who has bona fide declared his or her intention to become a citizen in the manner required by law, of the age of twenty-one years, of good moral character, and who possesses the necessary qualifications of learning and ability, is entitled to admission as attorney and counselor in all the Courts of this State." Under the language of Article XX, section 18, California became one of the first states to open its doors to women to enter the legal profession. She was also the impetus for Article I, section 8, of the California Constitution, which in its original form, as Article XX, section 18, of the Constitution of 1879, this provision read: "No person shall on account of sex be disqualified from entering upon or pursuing any lawful business, vocation, or profession." Foltz's many other trail-blazing accomplishments included becoming the first woman appointed clerk to the State Judiciary Committee, member of the State Board of Corrections, a licensed Notary Public, director of a major bank, a deputy district attorney of Los Angeles, founder and publisher of the *San Diego Daily Bee* and *New American Woman Magazine*. In 1930, at the age of 81 Foltz was the first woman to run for Governor of California. The Department of Fair Employment and Housing (DFEH) is California's civil rights agency, which protects Californians from employment, housing and public accommodation discrimination, and hate violence. The DFEH investigates, conciliates, mediates, and prosecutes violations of the Fair Employment and Housing Act (FEHA), Unruh Civil Rights Act, and Ralph Civil Rights Act. See [www.dfeh.ca.gov](http://www.dfeh.ca.gov)

### DFEH Events This Month

- March 10 - Director Phyllis Cheng speaks at the Southwestern Labor & Employment Law Section Seminar, Los Angeles.
- March 12 - Legislative and Regulatory Counsel Brian Sperber speaks before the Channel Islands Public Management Association-Human Resources, Ventura.
- March 12 - Associate Chief Counsel Nelson Chan speaks before the Department of Child Support Services, Sacramento.
- March 20 - Director Phyllis Cheng speaks at Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp Labor and Employment Practice Group Seminar, Los Angeles.
- March 26 - Senior Staff Counsel Phoebe Liu presents a DFEH Webinar on Sex Discrimination.
- March 27 - Director Phyllis Cheng presents keynote at Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo Employment Law Conference, Cerritos.

## March 2014



February 2014						
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April 2014						
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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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9	10 Southwestern Labor & Employment Law Careers Panel	11	12 CIPMA-HR DCSS Presentations	13	14	15
16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19	20 Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp Presentation	21	22
23	24	25	26 DFEH Webinar on Sex Discrimination	27 AALRR Employment Law Conference	28 Andelson	29 Loya
30	31					